United States Department of Agriculture Forest Service

Forest Insect and Disease Management Box 5895, Asheville, N. C. 28803

REPLY TO: 5230 Evaluations

September 29, 1975

SUBJECT: SPB Evaluations and Multi-Stage Sampling, Expanded SPB Program

Frank M. Yasinski, Staff Director Forest Insect & Disease Management



To conserve our supply of manpower as much as possible during this busy season, we wish to avoid double coverage of the Chattahoochee National Forest in accomplishing the southern pine beetle biological evaluation and the 3-stage sampling project. To do this we would have to delay the biological evaluation for about a month until we can collect appropriate ground information from beetle spots selected for sampling in the expanded program study.

We currently have the basic information from the aerial phase of the multi-stage sampling study and we feel this should be sufficient data accompanying last year's report to support the National Forest's request for control funds for F.Y. 1976.

The areas being used in this study consist of the Brasstown, Tallulah, and Chattooga Ranger Districts of the Chattahoochee National Forest. Only Forest Service lands and those spots actually on Forest Service lands will be used in the study. For the pilot test, we have broken the three ranger districts up into six strata, 1-A, 1-B, 2, 3-A, 3-B, and 4 as indicated in Figure 1. Stratum 1-A and 1-B are the most heavily infested areas on the Forest. Stratum 1-B was a 100-percent sketchmap survey where we found 98 spot infestations with approximately 5,000 red and fading trees. The largest spot in this area was a 2,000tree spot. Eight other spots on this area each had over 100 trees. Stratum 1-A is equally as heavily infested. However, the 100-percent photo coverage of this area has not been completely interpreted. Stratum 2 would be the next most heavily infested area with 29 spots and 351 trees. Stratum 3-A has 38 spots and approximately 400 affected trees. Spots in 3-A ranged in size from 1 to 100 trees. Stratum 3-B has 10 spots and approximately 172 red and fading trees with the largest spot a 50-tree spot. The largest stratum, 4, has approximately 172 spots and an estimated 2,400 trees. All of this data indicates that the Brasstown, Tallulah and Chattooga Ranger Districts should continue their control efforts against the southern pine beetle.

PATRICK J. BARRY Entomologist

Enclosure

